

## The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

### Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to [jane@rufford.org](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole, Grants Director**

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	BASUDEV TRIPATHY
Project title	Alternative Livelihood Options for Coastal Community of Rushikulya Sea Turtle Rookery in Orissa Coast – A Pilot Initiative
RSG reference	22.07.09
Reporting period	November 2009 – September 2010
Amount of grant	£ 6000
Your email address	tripathyb@yahoo.co.uk
Date of this report	31.01.2011

**1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.**

Objectives	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
i. Capacity Building Workshops and awareness among coastal community. (i) Dry fish preservation technique (ii) Tailoring training for women (iii) Poultry/Mushroom farming techniques (iv) Boat repairing training (v) Hard & Soft toys making training using locally available materials				As per the project proposal, a series of capacity building workshops (using materials prepared during 1 <sup>st</sup> RSG) were conducted in five coastal villages for coastal communities.
ii. Implementation of alternate livelihood programmes through involvement of voluntary groups. (i) Village woman self help group (Dry fish selling unit) (ii) Handicraft training (iii) Poultry/Mushroom Farming				On a pilot basis, only three alternate livelihood programmes identified to be feasible and were initiated through involvement of village voluntary groups.
iii. Evaluation of alternate livelihood programme.				The above alternate livelihood programmes were evaluated upon three months of implementations and were found to be successful.

**2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).**

As such there were no unforeseen difficulties during the project as the first RSG was successfully undertaken at the site. However, there is still awareness required among fisherfolks and villagers about the importance of sea turtle and the possible and feasible alternate livelihood options involving sea turtles at the Rushikulya is available and these need to be taken up at a larger scale. Nevertheless, the current pilot initiative by 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG has prompted the villagers came forward learning about the more such livelihood options for the coastal community.

**3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.**

Being a short duration project, the outcomes may not meet the anticipated level of success but there was definite enthusiasm among coastal community for sea turtle conservation at Rushikulya and benefit from alternate livelihood options for fisherfolks and coastal dwellers.

The following three are the outcomes recognised through this project:

- i. The legislation for seasonal ban on fishing in the nearshore waters and the proposal by federal government for declaring Rushikulya sea turtle rookery has led to look for alternate source of livelihoods for the fisherfolks and dependent community at the rookery. The recently implemented 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG has shown a route and awareness among the local community for searching alternate livelihoods for their future.
- ii. Taking up programmes by involving traditional fishermen and local community, there is a kind of confidence among them for future such self initiatives and substantial benefit from such kind of activities.
- iii. The awareness programmes conducted in coastal villages adjacent to the Rushikulya rookery and creation of voluntary groups had a substantial impact on the community towards capacity building for alternate livelihood options. Through the 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG, the activities of a local NGO, the Rushikulya Sea Turtle Protection Committee (RSTPC) were strengthened, as they were deeply involved in all the programmes and being a local group, convincing the communities through them was successful.

**4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefited from the project (if relevant).**

The instant benefit in terms for the larger community may not be visualised through this project, as this was a pilot initiative. However, there has been definite an awareness and thought among the coastal community towards sea turtle protection and possible livelihood options that involve the sea turtle as a resource for getting benefit to the dwellers.

The following are the possible benefits visualised through this project:

- i. *Benefit from alternate livelihood options:* Till now, the artisanal fishermen and coastal community did not visualise that except marine fishing, there is no other options for them. However, through this programme, they realise that alternate livelihood options are available for them involving sea turtle directly or indirectly in their activities.
- ii. *Promotion of eco-tourism and thereby income generation by coastal community:* There is tourist influx into the Rushikulya rookery every year. These traditional fishing communities can serve as guide and is a good source of financial benefit to the local community. Through this project, in association with the RSTPC, a souvenir centre was opened for tourists from where tourist can purchase materials made by local community and the income generation from it will serve for village development.
- iii. *Funding support for community:* The surplus funds of the government and non-government scheme towards sea turtle conservation and protection through community participation can be utilised for various village developmental activities by providing them with alternate source of income viz. boat repairing unit in the village, handicraft training for women etc. besides, funds from federal and state could be used for road and water facilities, village community hall etc. A preliminary proposal to this effect was discussed with the local Administration and is under consideration by the state government.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes, I would like to continue the work involving the local community in the area and broadening the scope of work in future for creation of livelihood options on a larger scale for the coastal community dependent on Rushikulya rookery and particularly on a larger spectrum of people getting benefited out of the work.

**6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?**

The results of the present work will be shared with like-minded NGOs working on similar aspects by sending them a copy of the report for their comments and suggestions for further improvement in future programmes. A copy of the report will be send to the state and federal wildlife and forests authority with a request for consideration of Rushikulya as the Community Reserve as per the new Amendment in the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act and with alternate livelihood options for benefiting the dependent coastal community. Also, information on the present work will be disseminated through print media and by publishing articles on Prospect of Community Based Sea Turtle Conservation and Success of Alternate Livelihood Programmes at Rushikulya in various popular journals and magazines of India and outside.

**7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?**

Sl. No.	Major activities	Months (2009-2010)											
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
1.	Capacity Building Workshops and awareness among coastal community.												
2.	Implementation of alternate livelihood programmes through involvement of voluntary groups.												
3.	Evaluation of alternate livelihood programme.												
4.	Report writing												

The project was implemented for a period of one year beginning in November 2009, being the approach of sea turtle breeding season in Orissa. However, the major work was carried out after receipt of funding in February 2010 and all the activities completed as per the proposed activity budget in the proposal. There was a little delay in the activity No. 2 (Implementation of alternate livelihood programmes) due to logistic constraints. However, the expected target could be achieved in time.

**8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.**

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
1. Capacity Building Workshops (at least five such workshops proposed)	1000	1200	-200	The number of participants were overwhelmed in all the meetings
Implementation of selective (at least five) alternative livelihood programmes through Voluntary Groups (three livelihood programme conducted on a pilot basis and other two on a experimental basis)	2000	2100	-100	Towards this item, the expenditure was more than what was expected.
3. Per diem for the Project Leader (180 days x £ 3)	540	540	0	
4. Base camp expenditure- House Renting & maintenance	360	360	0	
5. Wages for Field Assistants	960	950	0	
6. Travel (Travel by Train, Road Transport, Hired Vehicles)	900	800	+100	Travel expenditure was curtained
7. Report writing and Dissemination of information to various NGOs and like minded organisation including federal and state agencies.	250	140	+110	Report writing expenditure was less.
<b>TOTAL</b>	6000	6000	0	<b>*Local Exchange Rate – 1 £ Sterling = 75.50 INR Rupee</b>

**9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?**

The future step at the Rushikulya sea turtle rookery should focus on creating more such feasible community based alternate livelihood programmes for the coastal dwellers by the state and federal agency before declaring this site as a Community Reserve. On the other hand, the awareness among the community on the rights over the resource needs to be strengthened substantially. This needs more capacity building workshops as well as formal and informal stakeholders meeting with the coastal villages. And finally, as a confidence building measure, the local NGOs should come forward and help the coastal community for developing better community based alternate livelihood programme and see them getting success and benefit out of this.

**10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?**

Yes. RSGF logo was used for all purpose including community level capacity building workshops for the villagers and general public and also wall paintings were done depicting message on olive ridley turtle conservation and alternate livelihood for the community at Rushikulya sea turtle rookery of Orissa. For livelihood programmes also, RSG logo was used in all the activities.

**11. Any other comments?**

Future long term support to community and involving them in sea turtle protection and providing coastal dwellers better livelihood options at the Rushikulya rookery will definitely reduce pressure to olive ridley turtles and their breeding habitat as well as on federal and state agencies for pertaining protection to the olive ridley turtles at the rookery.